



**Testimony on behalf of  
The Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, Inc.  
Before the Committee on Children  
February 7, 2023**

**House Bill 6561 - An Act Establishing a Task Force for the Protection  
of Youth and Intramural and Interscholastic Athletes**

The Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, Inc. (CRPA) is a nonprofit charitable organization. Our mission is to support the recreation and park profession and steward the future of public parks and recreational opportunities in Connecticut in order to promote active lifestyles, livable communities, and quality of life for all who call Connecticut home. CRPA represents over 760 individual professionals from municipal, nonprofit, and private, park, recreation, and camp organizations, as well as approximately 134 of the 169 municipal park and recreation departments in Connecticut.

The bill would establish a task force to study injury prevention practices and safety protocols in youth sports leagues and intramural and interscholastic athletic programs. CRPA thanks the committee for designating an appointment to a municipal park and recreation professional that is a member of a statewide park and recreation association and a separate representative from a municipal youth sports league.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with the committee both on the selection of these individuals and on the Task Force for the Protection of Youth and Intramural and Interscholastic Athletes.

Valerie Stolfi Collins  
Executive Director